

Message Text

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AMCONSUL IBADAN
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KADUNA PASS KANO

E. O. 11652: NA
TAGS: OEXC, NI
SUBJ: NOMINATION FOR SYRACUSE RADIO PROJECT

REF : STATE A - 1218 (FEB. 24, 1975)

1. POST NOMINATES THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPALS FOR THE 1976
SYRACUSE RADIO PROJECT: MS. HELEN
G. OSAKWE, PRODUCER,
NBC, LAGOS AND MR. OYETUNJI OYETOSHO, EDITOR, WNBS,
IBADAN.

2. BIODATA FOLLOWS IN PRIORITY ORDER:

A. 1ST PRINCIPAL

FULL NAME: MS. HELEN OBIAGELI OSAKWE

PRESENT POSITION: PRODUCER, FEATURES DEPARTMENT,
NIGERIAN BROADCASTING CORPORA-
TION, LAGOS

PAST POSITIONS: CURATOR, NIGERIAN NATIONAL
MUSEUM, NOV. 1971-APRIL, 1972.

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DATE & PLACE OF BIRTH: [Sensitive Information Removed Per NARA 17 SEP 2013]; KANO, KANO STATE

PRESENT CITIZENSHIP: NIGERIAN; NONE PREVIOUS

PREVIOUS TRAVEL TO THE
U S: NONE

PREVIOUS TRAVEL TO
OTHER COUNTRIES: SPAIN 1966 - MAY 1970; FRANCE
1967 & 1969; GERMANY - SUMMER,
1968; ITALY, JUNE 1969

PREVIOUS USG GRANT: NONE

VISA ELIGIBILITY: NAMECHECK SATISFACTORY, VISA ELIBLE

REASONS FOR NOMINATION: WHILE MISS OSAKWE IS CURRENTLY
WORKING AS A PRODUCER IN FEATURES
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL SERVICE OF NBC, THE FACT THAT SHE WAS
CHOSEN BY NBC MANAGEMENT AS NOMINEE THE HIGHLY-REGARDED SYRA-
CUSE PROJECT INDICATES THEY EXPECT HER TO TAKE POSITIONS OF
RESPONSIBILITY IN OTHER AREAS OF THE CORPORATION.

MS. OSAKWE IS A PERSON OF WIDE-RANGING INTELLIGENCE AND
CAPABILITIES. HER ACADEMIC TRAINING WAS IN LANGUAGE AND
SOCIOLOGY, AND SHE SERVED FOR SIX MONTHS AS CURATOR AT
NIGERIAN NATIONAL MUSEUM. SHE HAS TRAVELLED AND STUDIED IN
EUROPE, BUT HAS HAD NO ADVANCED TRAINING IN BROADCASTING AND
HAS NEVER BEEN TO THE U.S. SHE WOULD BE CERTAIN TO LEARN
GREAT DEAL FROM SYRACUSE PROGRAM IN TERMS OF TECHNICAL
INNOVATIONS AS WELL AS STANDARDS OF PROGRAMMING AND GENE-
RAL SITUATION OF AMERICAN BROADCASTING. BECAUSE OF HER
SPECIAL INTEREST IN THE ARTS WHE WOULD ALSO BENEFIT FROM
OPPORTUNITIES TO VISIT CULTURAL CENTERS AND TO SEE HOW
THEY WORK IN CONJUNCTION WITH BROADCASTING FACILITIES.

OBJECTIVES OF US VISIT: PRIMARILY SUPPORTS CPP OBJECTIVES
I AND III. BY EXPOSING KEY MEDIA
LEADER SUCH AS MS. OSAKWE TO BROAD PRINCIPALS U.S. RADIO
JOURNALISM AND TO U.S. TECHNIQUES AND TECHNOLOGY, A
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GREATER UNDERSTANDING/APPRECIATION OF U.S. SOCIETY SHOULD
RESULT AND BE REFLECTED IN PROGRAMS ON NBC, THE NATIONAL
ANCHOR STATION. BY OBSERVING FIRST HAND HOW THINGS WORK
IN U.S., OUR POST PLACEMENT PROSPECTS SHOULD INCREASE AS
OSAKWE BECOMES MORE AWARE OF BACKDROP AND OFFERINGS OF
U.S. EXPERIENCE. THIS AWARENESS OF U.S. SHOULD BE TRANS-
LATED INTO MULTIPLIER EFFECT IN NBC RADIO LISTERNERS AS WELL.

B. 2ND PRINCIPAL

FULL NAME: MR. OYETUNJI OYETOSHO

PRESENT POSITION: EDITOR, GRADE II, WESTERN
NIGERIA BROADCASTING CORPORATION,
IBADAN.

PAST POSITIONS: INFORMATION OFFICER, GRADE II;
INFORMATION OFFICER, NATIONAL
YOUTH SERVICE CORPS

DATE & PLACE OF BIRTH: [Sensitive Information Removed Per NARA 17 SEP 2013]; FIDITI,
WESTERN STATE.

PRESENT CITIZENSHIP: NIGERIAN; NONE PREVIOUS

PREVIOUS TRAVEL TO THE
U S: NONE

PREVIOUS TRAVEL TO
OTHER COUNTRIES: GHANA

PREVIOUS USG GRANT: NONE

VISA ELIGIBILITY: NAMECHECK SATISFACTORY, VISA
ELIGIBLE

REASONS FOR NOMINATION: GRANTEE IS A YOUNG NEWS EDITOR
AT WNBS, COMMERCIAL AND MOST-
LISTENED TO STATION IN WESTERN AND KWARA STATE AND ONE OF THE
MORE POPULAR IN NIGERIA. STATION HAS FOR LONG MAINTAINED FRI-
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ENDLY CONTACT WITH POST, OFTEN MAKING USE OF USIS MATERIALS.
STATION MANAGEMENT, CONSCIOUS OF CERTAIN PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM-
MING, SHORT-COMINGS AND (PERHAPS THROUGH THE INFLUENCE OF 1975
WOMEN IN BROADCASTING RETURNEE AND RECENTLY-PROMOTED DIRECTOR
OF PROGRAMMING ANIKE AGBAJE-WILLIAMS) AWARE OF US PRE-EMI-
NENCE IN COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING, HAS FOR LONG WISHED TO
EXPOSE CERTAIN MIDDLE-LEVEL "COMMERS" TO U.S. PROGRAMMING
TECHNIQUES WITH AN EYE TO -- INWORDS OF STATION GENERAL MANA-
GER -- "DIMINISH OUR RELIANCE ON BRITISH METHODS AND MATERIALS."
CANDIDATE IS AGREED UPON NOMINEE OF STATION MANAGEMENT WHICH
VIEWS HIM AS "PROMISING," IS OF PROPER AGE, (HONORS DEGREE IN
MASS COMMUNICATION) AND PROFESSION (NEWS EDITOR) TO BENEFIT,
BOTH PERSONALLY AND AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF HIS STATION.

OBJECTIVE OF US VISIT: NOMINATION IS DIRECTLY IN ACCORD

WITH PROGRAM OBJECTIVES I, III,
AND OVER TIME, MAY CONTRIBUTE TO II AND IV. AS NEWS EDITOR
OF A MASS-AUDIENCE NIGERIAN RADIO STATION, U.S. CANNOT BUT
BENEFIT FROM BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF U.S. LIFE, PEOPLE, CUS-
TOMS AND PROFESSIONAL PRECEDURES WHICH HE LIKELY TO RECEIVE
DURING PROGRAM (HIS FIRST) IN THE U.S. FURTHER, HIS PARTICI-
PATION WILL GO LONG WAY TOWARDS ENHANCING RELATIONS BETWEEN
BRANCH POST AND RADIO STATION, IMPROVING ACCURACY U.S.
COVERAGE AS WELL AS CHANCES FOR PLACEMENT.

3. ALTERNATES: 1. MALAM MUHAMMAD SULEIMAN
ASSISTANT EDITOR
BROADCASTING CO, OF NORTHERN
NIGERIA KADUNA.
2. ALHAJI ZAKARI YAKUBU
CONTROLLER, NEWS & CURRENT AFFAIRS
BP BROADCASTING CORPORATION
JOS.

AVAILABILITY DATE FOR US
VISIT: FEBRUARY - MARCH, 1976.
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Type: TE
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